UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/675,692	09/29/2000	Ashraf A. Michail	MS1-676US	1488

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EXAMINER
CAMPBELL, JOSHUA D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2178	

DATE MAILED: 12/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/675,692	MICHAIL ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Joshua D Campbell	2178

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on th cover sh et with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *09/29/2000*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-27* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-27* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *29 September 2000* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: Application filed on 09/29/2000.

2.   Claims 1-27 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 10, 17, and 22 are independent

claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Neibauer

(The ABCs of WordPerfect 8, published in 1997).

4.   **Regarding independent claim 1,**

– a highlight rendering services interface that provides one or more methods to

enable an editor extension to highlight a section of an electronic document;

o Neibauer discloses a method in which an interface to operate a function

(extension) used to highlight sections of text (Page 89-90, "Highlighting

Text" of Neibauer).

5.   **Regarding dependent claim 2,**

– to enable the editor extension to define a style of the section highlighting;

   o Neibauer discloses a method in which the interface contains options to change the color and shading of the highlighting (style) (Page 89-90, "Highlighting Text" of Neibauer).

6.   **Regarding dependent claim 3,**

  – to enable the editor extension to create a highlight segment between two display pointers in the document;

    o Neibauer discloses a method in which text may be highlighted by selecting a point at the beginning of the section to be highlighted and then deselecting at the end of the section to be highlighted, at which point it is highlighted (Page 89-90, "Highlighting Text" of Neibauer). This act temporarily highlights the text in a block providing a user with a view of the start and end points (two display pointers) (Page 29-30, "Selecting Text" of Neibauer).

7.   **Regarding dependent claim 4,**

  – to enable the editor extension to create a highlight segment between two display pointers in the document and to highlight the segment according to a specified rendering style;

    o Neibauer discloses a method in which text may be highlighted by selecting a point at the beginning of the section to be highlighted and then deselecting at the end of the section to be highlighted, at which point it is highlighted (Page 89-90, "Highlighting Text" of Neibauer). This act temporarily highlights the text in a block providing a user with a view of the

start and end points (two display pointers) (Page 29-30, "Selecting Text" of

Neibauer). Neibauer also discloses a method in which the interface

contains options to change the color and shading of the highlighting (style)

(Page 89-90, "Highlighting Text" of Neibauer).

8.   **Regarding dependent claim 5,**

  – to enable the editor extension to redefine a highlight segment;

    o Neibauer discloses a method in which the user may redefine the text

      contained within a highlight segment (Page 89-90, "Highlighting Text" of

      Neibauer).

9.   **Regarding dependent claim 6,**

  – to enable the editor extension to redefine a style of a highlight segment;

    o Neibauer discloses a method in which the user may redefine the color and

      shading (style) within a highlight segment (Page 89-90, "Highlighting Text"

      of Neibauer).

10.   **Regarding dependent claim 7,**

  – to enable the editor extension to remove a highlighted segment from the

    document;

    o Neibauer discloses a method in which the user may remove highlighting

      from a segment (Page 89-90, "Highlighting Text" of Neibauer).

11.   **Regarding dependent claim 8,**

  – an interface to enable the editor extension to control a highlighted section of a

    document;

   o Neibauer discloses a method in which an interface contains options to

    change (control) the color and shading of the highlighting (style) (Page 89-

    90, "Highlighting Text" of Neibauer).

12. **Regarding dependent claim 9,**

  – an interface to enable the editor extension to control one highlighted section of a

   document from a group of highlighted sections of the document;

    o Neibauer discloses a method in which an interface contains options to

     change (control) the color and shading of the highlighting (style), allowing

     the user to change one segment, instead of all of them (Page 89-90,

     "Highlighting Text" of Neibauer).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

13. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

14. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of

the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g)

prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 10-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Neibauer (The ABCs of WordPerfect 8, published in 1997) in view of Prinzing (US

Patent Number 6,480,206, filed on February 24, 1998).

15.   **Regarding independent claim 10,**

–   receiving parameters from a designer through a highlight rendering services

    interface;

–   utilizing the parameters to highlight a segment of an electronic document; and

–   returning values to the designer regarding the state of the highlighted segment;

    o   Neibauer discloses a method in which an interface to operate a function

        used to highlight sections of text (Page 89-90, "Highlighting Text" of

        Neibauer). Neibauer does not disclose a method in which a designer is

        used to receive the parameter or return the values to the designer

        regarding the state of the highlighted segment. Neibauer does not

        disclose a method in which an extension of an extensible editor is used to

        perform this action. However, Prinzing discloses a development kit can be

        used to modularly apply style changes (highlights) using view objects

        (extensions) received from an interface to a document in a text editor

        (column 3, lines 17-53 of Prinzing). The interface can determine and edit

        styles of any text, so it is inherent that values based on the state of all text,

including highlighted segments are communicated between the

development kit and the text editor (column 3, lines 6-16 of Prinzing). It

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have combined the methods of Neibauer and

Prinzing because it would have allowed the addition of new functionality

without rewriting the entire editor.

16.   **Regarding dependent claims 11-16,** the claims are the medium correlated with

storing the method of claims 2-7. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same

rationale as claims 2-7

17.   **Regarding independent claim 17,**

- receiving a request from an extension to utilize the highlight rendering services;

- facilitating the request by presenting a highlight rendering services interface that

   is accessible by the extension; and

- communicating with the extension through the highlight rendering services

   interface to enable the extension to highlight a section of a document through the

   editor;

   o Neibauer discloses a method in which an interface to operate a function

      used to highlight sections of text when requested (Page 89-90,

      "Highlighting Text" of Neibauer). Neibauer does not disclose a method in

      which an extension of an extensible editor is used to perform this action.

      However, Prinzing discloses a development kit can be used to modularly

      apply style changes (highlights) using view objects (extensions) received

from an interface to a document in a text editor (column 3, lines 17-53 of

Prinzing). The interface can determine and edit styles of any text, so it is

inherent that values based on the state of all text, including highlighted

segments are communicated between the development kit and the text

editor (column 3, lines 6-16 of Prinzing). It would have been obvious to

one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have

combined the methods of Neibauer and Prinzing because it would have

allowed the addition of new functionality without rewriting the entire editor.

18.   **Regarding dependent claim 18,**

  – presenting a highlight segment interface to enable the extension to control a

    highlighted section of a document displayed by the extensible editor;

  – communicating with the extension through the highlight segment interface;

    o Neibauer discloses a method in which an interface contains options to

      change (control) the color and shading of the highlighting (style) (Page 89-

      90, "Highlighting Text" of Neibauer). Neibauer does not disclose a method

      in which an extension of an extensible editor is used to perform this action.

      However, Prinzing discloses a development kit can be used to modularly

      (extension) apply style changes (highlights) received from an interface to a

      document in a text editor (column 3, lines 17-53 of Prinzing). The

      interface can determine and edit (control) styles of any text, so it is

      inherent that values based on the state of all text, including highlighted

      segments are communicated between the development kit and the text

editor (column 3, lines 6-16 of Prinzing). It would have been obvious to

one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have

combined the methods of Neibauer and Prinzing because it would have

allowed the addition of new functionality without rewriting the entire editor.

19.   **Regarding dependent claim 19-21,** t he claims are the medium correlated with

storing the method of claims 2-7. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same

rationale as claims 2-7

20.   **Regarding independent claim 22,**

–   a designer interface to transfer data between the editor and one or more

    designers attached to the editor;

–   an event routing controller to route events received by the editor to the one or

    more designers;

–   a highlight rendering services component that is configured to enable a designer

    to modify rendered character attributes of document text without modifying the

    document content;

    o   Neibauer discloses a method in which an interface to operate a function

        (extension) used to highlight sections of text (Page 89-90, "Highlighting

        Text" of Neibauer). Neibauer does not disclose a method in which a

        designer interface is used to transfer data between designers and the

        editor or an event routing controller. However, Prinzing discloses a

        development kit can be used to modularly apply style changes (highlights)

        using view objects (designers) received from an interface to text elements

(content) in a document in a text editor, allowing text elements to remain

unchanged (column 3, lines 17-53 of Prinzing). Prinzing discloses a

method in which a development kit routes the editing actions (events),

which includes transfer of data, to the different view objects to properly

format the text elements (column 4, lines 15-44 of Prinzing). It would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to have combined the methods of Neibauer and Prinzing

because it would have allowed the addition of new functionality without

rewriting the entire editor.

21.   **Regarding dependent claim 23,**

–   a highlight rendering services interface configured to transfer data between the

editor and a designer to enable the designer to control which sections of the

document are highlighted on the screen and the style in which the highlighting

appears;

   o   Neibauer discloses a method in which an interface contains options to

change (control) the color and shading of the highlighting (style) (Page 89-

90, "Highlighting Text" of Neibauer). Neibauer does not disclose a method

in which an extension of an extensible editor is used to perform this action.

However, Prinzing discloses a development kit (designer) can be used to

modularly apply style changes (highlights) received from an interface to a

document in a text editor (column 3, lines 17-53 of Prinzing). The

interface can determine and edit (control) styles of any text, so it is

inherent that values based on the state of all text, including highlighted

segments are communicated between the development kit and the text

editor (column 3, lines 6-16 of Prinzing). It would have been obvious to

one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have

combined the methods of Neibauer and Prinzing because it would have

allowed the addition of new functionality without rewriting the entire editor.

22.   **Regarding dependent claims 24 and 26,** the claims are the medium correlated

with storing the method of claims 2-7. Thus, the claims are rejected along the same

rationale as claims 2-7

23.   **Regarding dependent claim 25,**

‒   method to redefine a highlight segment and a style in which the highlight

        segment is rendered;

            o   Neibauer discloses a method in which the user may redefine the text

                contained within a highlight segment and the style of the highlight segment

                (Page 89-90, "Highlighting Text" of Neibauer).

24.   **Regarding dependent claim 27,**

‒   a highlight segment interface configured to transfer data between the editor and

        a designer to enable the designer to provide type checking for document

        segments added or moved from highlighted sections of the document;

            o   Neibauer discloses a method in which an interface to operate a function

                (extension) used to highlight sections of text (Page 89-90, "Highlighting

                Text" of Neibauer). Neibauer does not disclose a method in which a

designer interface is used to transfer data between designers and the
editor or an event routing controller. However, Prinzing discloses a
development kit can be used to modularly apply style changes (highlights)
using view objects (designers) received from an interface to text elements
(content) in a document in a text editor, allowing text elements to remain
unchanged (column 3, lines 17-53 of Prinzing). Prinzing discloses a
method in which a development kit routes the editing actions (events),
which includes transfer of data, to the different view objects to properly
format the text elements, when added formatting is removed it is returned
to it's original formatting. (column 4, lines 15-44 of Prinzing). It would
have been inherent that type checking occurs to make sure the text
objects are still viewable by the original editor that created them. It would
have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the
invention was made to have combined the methods of Neibauer and
Prinzing because it would have allowed the addition of new functionality
without rewriting the entire editor.

Conclusion

25.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to
applicant's disclosure.

US Patent Number 5,276,795, issued January 4, 1994, to Hoeber et al.

US Patent Number 5,544,048, issued August 6, 1996, to Dugan et al.

US Patent Number 5,694,151, issued December 2, 1997, to Johnston, Jr. et

al.

US Patent Number 5,802,534, issued September 1, 1998, to Hatayama et al.

US Patent Number 5,930,813, issued July 27, 1999, to Padgett et al.
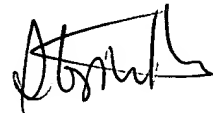
US Patent Number 6,173,337, filed March 8, 1996, by Akhond et al.

US Patent Number 6,240,430, filed December 13, 1996, by Deike et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Joshua D Campbell whose telephone number is

(703)305-5764. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM - 4:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on (703)308-5186. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is

(703)746-7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-

3900.

jdc
November 25, 2003

STEPHEN S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER